

America's FUTURE

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WHOSE RIGHTS?

With the new year, and the beginning of a new decade, we have had the usual batch of predictions of things to come. Prediction is always a tricky business. Go back and take a look at the forecasts for the decade of the 'fifties, and see how few of them came to pass. However, it is possible to look a little bit ahead - merely to the year which is now beginning. As I suggested last week, one of the big subjects undoubtedly will be federal-government spending. One of these days - and it

could be in 1960 - we will be forced to take a long, hard look at how close the Washington government can skirt the edges of bankruptcy without falling over the precipice.

Another major subject of the year will certainly be the labor-union monopoly. This involves not only the rights of the public as against the labor bosses, but equally as important, the rights of the working man as against the men who run the unions. A little-noticed incident of a few weeks ago in

Minnesota is an example of how serious this problem has become. The union called a strike against a large meat-packing plant in a small town in Minnesota. This union has a past record of violence and Red infiltration. The strike shut the plant. But the company officials soon discovered that a good many workers wanted to keep on working, despite the strike, so they reopened the plant. We then had a repetition of the disgraceful incidents involved in the infamous Kohler strike. Men and women entering the plant to earn a living were set upon by union pickets. They were stoned; their cars were overturned; the usual pattern of terror was turned loose against supposedly free

Americans whose sin was wanting to work at their jobs.

The situation became so bad that the governor of the state called out the National Guard. A governor, of course, is supposed to represent all the people of his state. You would naturally assume that he would order his troops to restore order at the plant, allow peaceful picketing by the union on the one hand - and on the other, permit those who wanted to work to enter the plant. But this particular governor happens to be a modern "liberal," so his troops shut down the plant. Thus he put the National Guard on the side of the labor goons - and denied to other citizens of his state the right to work.

LESSONS FROM WEST AND EAST

Not every big subject of 1960 will necessarily make big headlines. For instance, one of the biggest problems which faces us is seldom sensational enough to make the front pages, but it is of supreme importance. It is the preservation - perhaps we should say the restoration - of our free-enterprise, capitalist economic system. This system, which has provided us

with the greatest abundance in the world, is constantly under attack from all sorts of collectivists, socialists, and pro-Reds. They never admit to being any of these things. They call themselves "liberals." Their object is to get the government to do one or all of three things: To take over various industries; or to run industries in competition with private

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business; or to make plans for and issue orders to privately-owned businesses as to how they should be run.

The objective which drives these so-called modern "liberals," of course, is to bring all power to a great, central bureaucracy in Washington. But they never admit that this is their objective. However, these "liberals" have been left somewhat high and dry because of the failure of socialist experiments all over the world. So now they try to tell us that we cannot resist the great onslaughts of Russian communism unless we give full power over every phase of our economic life to the politicians in Washington. It is a strange thing to see

these modern-day "liberals" trying to sell us Marxian socialism under false labels - and doing so at the very moment when peoples right on the borders of the Red menace are discarding the false prophets of socialism.

For instance, not long ago, the Social Democratic Party of West Germany adopted a new manifesto. This party is nearly 90 years old. Throughout its history it has been committed to Marxian socialism. But now it has thrown it overboard lock, stock and barrel. Its new manifesto calls for "free competition in a free economy." It now denounces a "totalitarian-controlled economy" and says that "private ownership of the means of production may justly claim the protection of society." And remember, this once strongly socialist party operates in a country where the Red slave-state is just across the street.

Over on the other side of the world, at the very front door of Red China, is the city of Hong Kong. Hong Kong is a British crown colony, but wisely - or perhaps out of sheer necessity - the British have left Hong Kong free to manage its own affairs. Its greatest source of economic

support once came from trade with China. When the Reds took over China, that trade came to a practical standstill. But instead of going in for big government spending, high taxes, controlled currency, welfare-statism, government handouts - all the collectivist tools in the kit of the modern "liberal" - Hong Kong gave its business enterprisers free reign. The result is what the First National City Bank of New York calls "one of the outstanding success stories in the Far East today." Hong Kong businessmen looked around for new markets

- and found them. They built new manufacturing plants and expanded old ones. And they did all this in the face of terrific obstacles - constant streams of refugees flowing into the colony from Red China plus the ever-present danger of the Red Chinese marching in and taking over.

One thing helped immeasurably. Could we hope that Washington politicians will please note? The colony's government has kept its expenditures in balance - and has done it, glory be, with a tax rate of only 12½ percent on personal and corporate incomes!

FOOLISH AMERICANS

Another big problem which will still be with us this year is how to withstand the blandishments of hidden communist propaganda. Here the danger is not so much from the communists themselves, but from those foolish Americans who, without knowing it, do the Reds' dirty work for them. You would suppose, with all the evidence now at hand, that there is hardly an intelligent American who doubts that Fidel Castro is trying to institute in Cuba a regime which bears a very close resemblance to communism. There

are the ukases from the dictator, the confiscation of private property, the mock trials resulting in death sentences and long imprisonment, and all the other trappings peculiar to tyrant states. Now suppose a communist told you that all Castro is trying to do is to democratize Cuba. You would give him a loud ha-ha. But suppose the leader of a great church group in America told you the same thing. You might be inclined to believe him. This is what I mean by foolish Americans doing the Reds' work

for them without knowing it.

Last month, the Rev. Dr. Arthur L. Miller spent ten days in Cuba. Dr. Miller is the presiding officer of the United Presbyterian Church of the United States. He said Cuba had a "friendly, relaxed air." Perhaps he could not hear Castro's firing squads. Dr. Miller declared that Castro is making a genuine effort to democratize his

country. Well, maybe Dr. Miller has a different definition of "democratize" from the rest of us. Almost at the very moment the head of the United Presbyterian Church was making this statement, Fidel Castro was taking a leaf out of Stalin's book - and ordering Cubans to spy on each other and report to the police any statements against his government. - John T. Flynn

Foregoing items covered in Mutual network broadcast 1/3/60

Book Review

PROVOCATIVE AND CHALLENGING

ROOSEVELT'S ROAD TO RUSSIA by George N. Crocker, 312 pages, Regnery, Chicago, \$5.00.

No one can deny that this is one of the most provocative and challenging books of our time. George N. Crocker, a graduate of Stanford University and Harvard Law School, a former teacher and law dean, a former assistant U.S. attorney, a former Army officer, and a business executive, has written the little known story of the emergence of Russia as a mighty world power as aided and abetted by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Those who idolize the late war President will be angry, the book's jacket predicts,

and there never was a safer prediction because Crocker concludes that FDR's long series of blunders, culminating in the Yalta betrayals, dissipated "mankind's faith in America" so that "disillusionment and cynicism are the dross that remains where a high reputation for integrity once flourished."

Crocker holds that this dissipation of mankind's faith in America was even more important than the tossing away of "the lands and freedoms of peoples in Europe and Asia," and was Roosevelt's "most tragic disservice to his fellow countrymen."

Crocker portrays Roosevelt

as a "pale and shaking man, with sagging jaw and cavernous eyes," when he addressed Congress after the Yalta conference. Crocker quotes him as saying the solution of the Polish question had been "agreed to by Russia, by Britain, and by me," explaining further that "we could go as far as Britain wanted to go in some areas, as far as Russia wanted to go in certain areas, and as far as I wanted to in certain areas."

These ad libbed words were later expurgated from Roosevelt's official papers, evidently, as Crocker indicates,

because they revealed "a creeping megalomania eaten into the mind of this failing man."

This is the tragic narration of the truth about decisions that have shaped the uneasy peace. It is a sad tale of colossal incompetence, monstrous misunderstanding, outrages of freedom, intoxication with power, and gibbering optimism. It is strong meat but should be read by everyone who wants to understand the world today.

— Walter Trohan
in Chicago Tribune's
Sunday Magazine of Books

HIS OWN POWER FOLLY

"The head of a union promises to bring back a bigger and better contract each time he starts negotiations. When he meets firm opposition, he calls a strike. He may feel his own job is at stake if he capitulates, so a half million of his own union members and nearly as many innocent workers in affiliated industries must suffer, along with the nation's economy, its defense posture, its health, for what? So that he may be vindicated... (We) should keep in mind the one-man power to wreck industry inherent in union leadership and how to rescue the leader from his own power folly."

Laurel (Miss.) LEADER-CALL

"One small company with 300 employees filed 1,523 governmental reports in 1951—most of them for the Federal government. Back in 1883, when that company was founded, only six governmental forms were required annually."

U. S. News & World Report

ABOVE ALL - FREEDOM!

"Xerxes, King of Persia was waging war on the Greeks (483-480 B.C.). His army was ready to launch an attack on Athens. Xerxes' general sent an envoy to the Greek defenders. If they would surrender, he would give them every boon - except freedom. The Greeks replied: 'We Athenians will never come to terms with Xerxes.' When the inevitable battle ensued, the Athenian leaders rallied their troops with the cry, 'Remember - above all, freedom!' After initial losses, the Greeks prevailed and Xerxes' armies were beaten back.

"Twenty-five centuries later, the American people have been fighting a losing battle against 'creeping socialism.' In exchange for federal government largesse, we've been giving up some of our freedom. We still have considerable freedom left. We can save what remains and regain the freedom lost if we adopt the slogan of the ancient Athenians: 'Remember - above all, freedom!' The way to carry out this slogan is to stop reaching to Washington for federal handouts - for with federal handouts go federal domination and loss of freedom."

M. V. Eggleston in the syndicated service THE AMERICAN WAY

"I know what Mr. Khrushchev meant when he said the Russians will bury us economically. We cannot continually appropriate funds to spend overseas without inviting disaster and collapse from within."

- Sen. John L. McClellan

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